

TOPIC Military Information from the Templin Training Grounds

EVALUATION [] PLACE OBTAINED [] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT []

DATE OBTAINED [] DATE PREPARED 16 March 1953 25X1

REFERENCES []

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) []

REMARKS []

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. From 31 January to 2 February 1953, 11 tanks and a large truck column which, [] came from Eberswalde, were seen entering the Templin troop training grounds. []

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[] In the morning of 2 and 3 February, other units arrived in Templin in columns or individual vehicles. The trucks were occupied by troops and loaded with boxes and billeting equipment, []

[] On 8 February, 14 JS tanks and T-34 tanks left the training grounds toward Beutel. During the night of 8 February, about 45 tanks, organized in three columns and followed by numerous trucks, including some towing 76-mm AT guns; and by a few rocket launchers, were seen en route toward Altplacht, coming from the direction of Prenzlau. [] these units bivouacked in tent camps in Jagen (forest section) Nos 43, 53 and 54, on the border of the training grounds between Beutel and Annenwalde. On 16 February, several trucks, 2 field kitchens and 2 ambulances arrived at the training area. The trucks were occupied by troops, included some towing AT guns []

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[] Between 31 January and 14 February, numerous motor vehicles loaded with boxes and furniture arrived at the training grounds. []

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[] Because of the deep snow, the training activity was restricted to driving practice with tanks and trucks. []

2. From 16 to 21 February, the barracks installations northwest of Vogelsang were occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia. At about 9:30 a.m. on 21 February, about 400 troops preceded by a military band practiced marching in the barracks area. A number of soldiers carrying practice targets was observed. []

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1. Comment. According to this information, the short-term exercises at the training grounds, which started in mid-January 1953, continued until 16 February with the participating units having up to and including regimental strength. The training was probably restricted to driving practice and advanced combat practice firing. units of the 25th Tank Div, the 6th Gds Mecz Div and, in mid-February, units of the 32d AAA Div participated in these exercises. headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army probably were also at the training grounds. The units which bivouacked between Beutel and Annenwalde on 8 and 9 February, probably were tank units of the 25th Tank Div stationed in Prenzlau. The large number of motor vehicles of the 9th and 12th Gds Tank Div tends to indicate that, from late January to mid-February, units of these divisions participated in advanced combat practice firing in the training area.

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2. Comment. the guard details of the Templin troop training grounds can be carried in the newly erected barracks installations in the south section of Camp Vogelsang since late January. The troops seen on 21 February may have practiced for a review for the Red Army Day. They probably included troops who were there only temporarily.

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